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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,731	09/12/2003	In Hee Han	9988.056.00-US	4916

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EXAMINER

LU, JIPING

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3749

DATE MAILED: 01/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,731

Applicant(s)

HAN, IN HEE

Examiner

Jiping Lu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5 and 6 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 7-12 and 15-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kubo et al. (JP2000-279698 A).

Kubo et al. show a clothes dryer comprising a cabinet 2, a mixing pipe (at 4) and one or more holes (D or 39) configured to allow the air to directly flow into the mixing pipe from outside the clothes dryer same as claimed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

4. Claims 4, 7-8, 11-12, 15, 17-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art in view of Shanks (U. S. pat. 1,491,555).

Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art shows a clothes dryer same as claimed except for a plurality of air holes in a bottom of a base adjacent a front area of an inlet side of a mixing pipe. Shanks teaches a clothes dryer with a bottom 11 of a base 10 having a plurality of air holes 23

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for allowing air to flow into the cabinet from outside the clothes dryer. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the bottom of the base of the clothes dryer of Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art with a plurality of air holes as taught by Shanks in order to provide outside air into the clothes dryer through the bottom of the clothes dryer base.

5. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art in view of Shanks (U. S. pat. 1,491,555) as applied to claim 11 above, and further in view of Schenck (U. S. Pat. 1,799,649).

The clothes dryer of Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art as modified by Shanks as above includes all that is recited in claim 3 except for the shape of the air holes. Schenck teaches a clothes dryer with long air holes 8a same as claimed. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the clothes dryer of Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art to include long air holes as taught by Schenck in order to improve the drying efficiency.

6. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubo et al. (JP2000-279698 A) in view of Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art.

The clothes dryer of Kubo et al includes all that is recited in claim 19 except for the mixing pipe is installed on a bottom of the clothes dryer. Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art teaches a clothes dryer with a mixing pipe installed on a bottom of the clothes dryer same as claimed. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to install the mixing pipe of Kubo et al. on the bottom of the clothes

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dryer as taught by Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art in order to provide a steady support to the mixing pipe.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-3, 5-6 are allowed.
8. Claims 13, 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

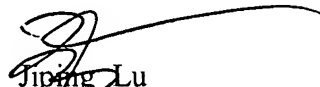
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CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jiping Lu whose telephone number is 703-308-2354. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus can be reached on 703 308-1935. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jiping Lu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3749

J. L.